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Washington, D.C. 20231

On

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Stephen P.A. Fodor et al.

Application No.: 09/724,928

Filed: November 28, 2000

For: VERY LARGE SCALE  
IMMOBILIZED POLYMER  
SYNTHESIS

Art Unit: 1627

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At p. 18, line 24, after "substrate." please insert the following:

--The substrate, the area of synthesis, and the area for synthesis of each individual polymer could be of any size or shape. For example, squares, ellipsoids, rectangles, triangles, circles, or portions thereof, along with irregular geometric shapes, may be utilized. Duplicate synthesis areas may also be applied to a single substrate for purposes of redundancy.

In one embodiment the regions 12 and 16 on the substrate will have a surface area of between about  $1 \text{ cm}^2$  and  $10^{-10} \text{ cm}^2$ . In some embodiments the regions 12 and 16 have areas of less than about  $10^{-1} \text{ cm}^2$ ,  $10^{-2} \text{ cm}^2$ ,  $10^{-3} \text{ cm}^2$ ,  $10^{-4} \text{ cm}^2$ ,  $10^{-5}$